

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A preform for a composite material, comprising at least two layers of laminated structure composed of a reinforcing material formed of comprising a reinforcement fiber and a layer provided between the layers, which is made of thermoplastic resin and has spaces so that flow of a thermoplastic resin layer having spaces to allow liquid resin to be injected for molding to flow through the composite material is uninhibited preform,

wherein the layers of the preform are laminated, and

wherein the thermoplastic resin layer has a weight per square meter of 1 to 50 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A The preform for a composite material, according to claim 1, wherein the layer, which is made of thermoplastic resin and has space so that flow of liquid resin to be injected for molding composite material is uninhibited, is a fabric formed of layer comprises a thermoplastic resin fiber thread.

Claim 3 (canceled):

Claim 4 (currently amended): A preform for a composite material, comprising at least two layers of laminated structure composed of a reinforcing material formed of comprising a reinforcement fiber, wherein a plurality of thermoplastic resin threads are adhered or woven approximately parallel to each other on a surface of the reinforcing material, and

wherein the thermoplastic resin threads are present in a weight per square meter of 1 to 50 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claim 5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): A The preform for a composite material, according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing material ~~formed of reinforcement fiber~~ is a woven fabric.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A The preform for a composite material, according to claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyamides and polyimides.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A fiber-reinforced composite material formed by molding the preform ~~for a composite material~~ according to claim 1.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A The preform for a composite material, according to claim 2, wherein the layer which is made of thermoplastic resin and has space so that flow of liquid resin to be injected for molding composite material is uninhibited, has a weight per square meter of 1 to 50 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

Claims 10-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (new): The preform according to claim 4, wherein the reinforcing material is a woven fabric.

Claim 14 (new): The preform according to claim 4, wherein the thermoplastic resin is at least one selected from the group consisting of polyamides and polyimides.

Claim 15 (new): A fiber-reinforced composite material formed by molding the preform according to claim 4.

Claim 16 (new): A fiber-reinforced composite material comprising the preform according to claim 1 and a cured resin, wherein the cured resin is present in each layer.

Claim 17 (new): A fiber-reinforced composite material comprising the preform according to claim 4 and a cured resin, wherein the cured resin is present in each layer.

Claim 18 (new): The fiber-reinforced composite material according to claim 16, wherein the cured resin is an epoxy.

Claim 19 (new): The fiber-reinforced composite material according to claim 17, wherein the cured resin is an epoxy.

Claim 20 (new): The preform according to claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin layer is nylon 12.

Claim 21 (new): The preform according to claim 4, wherein the thermoplastic resin threads are nylon 12.

Claim 22 (new): The preform according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcement fiber is a carbon fiber.

Claim 23 (new): The preform according to claim 4, wherein the reinforcement fiber is a carbon fiber.

Claim 24 (new): The preform according to claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin layer is a uniaxial, biaxial or triaxial plane woven fabric.

Claim 25 (new): A preform for a composite material comprising at least two layers of a reinforcing material comprising a reinforcement fiber and, between the layers, a thermoplastic resin layer having spaces to allow liquid resin to flow through the preform, wherein the layers of the preform are laminated, and wherein the thermoplastic resin layer is a porous film.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, and 13-25 are active in the present application. Independent Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to include the limitations of Claims 3 and 5 respectively and further for clarity. Claims 3 and 5 have been canceled. Claims 10-12 are canceled. Claim 25 is a new independent claim which requires the presence of a porous thermoplastic resin film. Support for the new independent claim is found in Example 6 on page 9, line 21. Claims 2 and 6-8 have been amended for clarity. Claims 13-25 are new claims. Support for new Claims 13-15 is found in the original claims. Support for new Claims 16-23 is found in the specification in the Examples. Support for new Claim 24 is found on page 3, line 13 and page 3, line 11. No new matter is added.